



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

11

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,165	09/17/2003	Yuji Imaizumi	0283-0178P	4193
2292	7590	10/25/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			REYES, HECTOR M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1625	
DATE MAILED: 10/25/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/664,165	IMAIKUMI ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Hector M Reyes	1625		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 12-22 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 12-22 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date . . .
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____ .

Detailed Action

Status of The Claims

Claims 1-11 have been canceled. New claims 12-22 have been added. Currently, claims 12-22 are hereby restricted.

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372. This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

- I. Claims 12-16 in part and 21-22 in part, drawn to a method of opening potassium channels comprising administering **NONHETEROCYCLIC** derivatives embraced in **formula I**, classified in multiple classes and multiple subclasses. **This group may be subjected to further restriction. A single disclosed species is hereby requested for search purpose.**
- II. Claims 12-16 in part and 21-22 in part, drawn to a method of opening potassium channels comprising administering **HETEROCYCLIC** derivatives embraced in **formula I**, classified in multiple classes and multiple subclasses. **This group may be subjected to further restriction. A single disclosed species is hereby requested for search purpose.**

III. Claims 17-20 in part and 21-22 in part, drawn to a method of opening potassium channels comprising administering **NONHETEROCYCLIC** derivatives embraced in formula II, classified in multiple classes and multiple subclasses. **This group may be subjected to further restriction. A single disclosed species is hereby requested for search purpose.**

IV. Claims 17-20 in part and 21-22 in part, drawn to a method of opening potassium channels comprising administering **HETEROCYCLIC** derivatives embraced in formula II, classified in multiple classes and multiple subclasses. **This group may be subjected to further restriction. A single disclosed species is hereby requested for search purpose.**

The inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Compounds required to practice the claimed methods are different since each one of them has a substantially different core and substitution of variable groups in any of the cores does not provide compounds required in any of the other Inventions. Moreover, each set of compounds embraced by each group has a different structure and reactivity from the others that a reference anticipating one group would not necessarily render the other obvious and to search all the different structurally diverse compounds in a single

application would present a serious undue burden to the Examiner. Thus a given reference anticipating or suggesting one of the above methods would not anticipates or suggest any of the other inventions under the meaning of 35 USC 102 or 35 USC 103. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for a given one of the Inventions would not be required for the others, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

CONCLUSION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hector M Reyes whose telephone number is (571) 272-0691. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00 AM-5:30 PM). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's mentor, Rita Desai can be reached on (571) 272-0684. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hector M. Reyes PhD JD
USPTO Reg. # P-54, 846
Au 1625
October 22, 2004

R. Desai
10/22/04